

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN SA 04436 242142Z
ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 A-01 SY-05 /021 W
-----100161 250911Z /12

R 242100Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9353

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 4436

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ABLD, ASEC, ES
SUBJ: PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROLS AND CONSULAR RENOVATIONS

REF (A) MACHADO/OROZCO TELCON 7/5/78; (B) STATE 132922 (C) SAN
SALVADOR 4002 (D) STATE 122938 (E) SAN SALVADOR 2042
(F) STATE 103315

1. EMBASSY GREATLY CONCERNED WITH CONTINUED DELAY IN FINALIZING
PLANS FOR SECURITY MEASURES INTO PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS AND RENO-
VATIONS FOR CONSULAR SECTION. DESPITE REPEATED EXPRESSION OF
CONCERN ABOUT RAINY SEASON, WE ARE NOW IN MID-SEASON AND HAVE
RECEIVED NO DEFINITE WORD ON THE FINAL PLANS FOR PROCEEDING
OR INSTRUCTIONS TO PROCEED WITH BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION.

2. TERRORIST ACTIVITIES CONTINUE ON UPSWING WITH RECENT
BOMBINGS OF ARGENTINE, GUATEMALA AND NICARAGUA EMBASSIES, THE
PEACEFUL TAKEOVER THREE MONTHS AGO OF FOUR FOREIGN EMBASSIES,
AND SEVERAL KIDNAPPINGS, THE MOST RECENT INVOLVING A SWEDISH
BUSINESSMAN.
EMBASSY, THEREFORE, CANNOT EMPHASIZE MORE STRONGLY THE NEED
FOR EARLIEST HARDENING OF ITS PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS.
PRELIMINARY, BUT INADEQUATE MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TOWARD
BETTER CONTROLS. WE ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE AT ICA ENTRANCE.

3. UNDERSTAND PUBLIC ACCESS AND CONSULAR RENOVATION ARE ONE
PACKAGE. CONSULAR SECTION IS SCHEDULED TO INSTALL AUTOMATIC
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VISA LOOKOUT SYSTEM (AVLOS) AND HAS NECESSARILY SUGGESTED
JANUARY/FEBRUARY TIMEFRAME SINCE POSSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATION
BY END FY 78 NOT POSSIBLE. INSTALLATION OF AVLOS REQUIRES

INTERNAL CHANGES TO ACCOMMODATE TELETYPE TERMINAL AND OTHER
EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE. FBO'S ATTENTION DRAWN TO REFS.
(B) - PARTICULARLY PARA 3.B. - AND (C), WHICH WILL EXPLAIN

FULLY WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR AVLOS INSTALLATION.

4. PLEASE ADVISE BY PRIORITY CABLE WHEN EMBASSY CAN EXPECT
APPROVED PLANS AND FUNDING IN ORDER OBTAIN BIDS AND PROCEED
WITH CONSTRUCTIONS. STATE 103315 ADVISED SY/FBO/KNOOP IN
AGREEMENT SUBJECT RENOVATIONS. CONTINUED DELAYS FOR
PROCEEDING WITH RENOVATIONS HINDERING VITAL SECURITY AND
CONSULAR ACTIVITIES.
LUBENSKY

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NNN

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